

Contra Costa Hills Club  
Virtual Board Meeting Minutes  
January 10, 2025

The January board meeting was held virtually through Zoom. President Stew called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

**Board Members present:** Stew Perlman, Jim Baranowski, Mike Branning, Patricia Derickson, Connie Gee, Helen Wong Johe, Rosemary Johnson, Cameron Mitchell

**Committee Members present:** Yvonne Moss, Lucy Perdichizzi

**Absent:** Suzy Mark, Mindy Svorny-Moore, Fran Ternus

**Minutes Approval:** December 13, 2024 Board Meeting; Moved to accept. M/S/C

**President's Report:** Thank you to everyone who works to help sustain and support our excellent club.

Welcome to David Jadeson and Sylvia Kwan for joining the Nominations Committee. Furthermore, thank you to those of you who will be leading hikes this 2025 Quarter – January, February and March.

Thank you to those of you who generously bought my apricot jam. Unfortunately the prolific tree seems to be on its last legs. The donations are given to the Conservation Committee and the Social Committee. Also it is terrific that the entire board is returning for another year! Thank you to Helen who agreed to take minutes for the February and March board meetings during Mindy's absence.

**Vice President's Report:** see New Business

**Membership:** Connie reported that membership is now up to 220 members, which includes 6 honorary members.

**Conservation Committee Requests:** Citizens for Eastshore Parks, \$ 50; El Cerrito Trail Trekkers, \$ 100 and Tamalpais Conservation Club, \$ 100.

**Bills:** Connie Gee, monthly mailing postage for January, \$ 33.58;

PLUS requests to cover Treasurer absence 2/10-4/14:

1. Connie Gee - \$ 67.16 – monthly posting for Feb & March (if figure too low, will reimburse after May approval)
2. CA Secretary of State - \$ 20 filing fee – online file with credit card and reimbursement to Cameron
3. Groups io Premium Subscription – due mid-February - \$ 220 – to be paid by Rosemary, and reimbursed

Moved to pay Conservation requests and bills – M/S/C

Notes: Suzy will pay for Zoom subscription by auto-pay on her credit card ( ~ \$ 170.) – also for room rental at Oakland Garden Center Annual Meeting on March 9 th (last year \$ 310) – agrees to reimbursement when exact figures are billed.

Stew will have checks and can pay the restaurant bill on the day of the event or see that Lucy has a check.

Cameron will get luncheon receipts from Lucy and first set of dues checks from Connie for deposit shortly after April 14 when she returns.

Conservation will try to designate all remaining funds available up to March 31 at their Feb 3 rd meeting. Cameron will get approval by email and disburse the checks prior to vacation. They may choose to carry over some funds into the next fiscal year.

CD's renew Feb 2 and March 2. Fremont Bank emails with notice and best rates at the moment. Email response and new CD certificates arrive in the mail.

Stew will have what he needs to meet unanticipated expenses, if any. If any donation checks are mailed to Cameron they will be deposited when she returns.

Treasurer reports to be distributed at the Annual Meeting will be completed and sent to Stew: 1. "Social luncheons summary" (CM), also includes up to date total funds at the time of the meeting; "Conservation Contributions" – prepared by Beryl Vonderheid and Fred Mock, 3. "Report of Cash Flow" prepared by CM; "2024-2025 Membership Stats". Our habit has been to prepare 6 folders with reports attached to be circulated among the attendees. A note says that if someone wants their own copy, let us know. In the past, very few requests. These were easily met by giving the members one report or set of reports from the 6 copies that were circulated. It has worked that we do not provide 70(?) sets of reports. Members are satisfied with the approach that eliminates excess paper waste.

Honorarium for Annual Meeting guest speaker can be paid after April 14 th .

Treasurer has complete wifi access while away – both at ports and on the ship.

**Treasurer's Report:**

**Total Savings** (CD&#39;s) \$ 32,641.13

**Total Funds** as of December 31, 2024 \$ 43,790.72

**Corresponding Secretary:** Patricia sent 10 cards so far in December and January

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

Spring Luncheon: Lucy shared her progress on parameters for the Spring Luncheon. After discussion, the desired dates are either April 2nd or April 23 rd . She has contacted 8-9 restaurants and received cost estimates from \$ 63-68/member (including tax & tip). With further negotiations, two restaurants in the SF Fisherman Wharf area are the most serious considerations at this time. She, along with Stew, Rosemary and any others who desire, will meet this coming Tuesday with sales personnel at those two options and possibly be ready to present a decision. Both restaurants offer two hours validated parking

in the garage nearby. More to come.

Nominating committee: Cameron shared Nominees for office, April 2025 – March 2026 – each member of the current board is returning (!)– President Stew Perlman, Vice President Jim Baranowski, Treasurer Cameron Mitchell, Membership Secretary Connie Gee, Recording Secretary Mindy Svorny-Moore, Corresponding Secretary Patricia Derickson, Directors Mike Branning, Helen Wong Johe, Rosemary Johnson, Suzy Mark & Fran Ternus. The slate has been shared on Groups io by web committee member, Fred Mock. The slate will be shared in the monthly newsletter created by Jim.

Donation Opportunity: Jim shared an article from the East Bay Times regarding Ginochio Schwendel ranch – the 98-acre property along Marsh Creek Road between Clayton & Brentwood. It is next to Save Mount Diablo's Marsh Creek 5 Preserve. Save Mount Diablo is asking for donations of \$ 100,000 toward the \$ 1.5M cost needed to complete this acquisition. It needs to receive the funds by March 6 th . M/S/C (Baranowski, Derickson) to donate \$ 2,000 to Save Mount Diablo toward the acquisition of Ginochio Schwendel ranch from the \$ 10,000 Betty Parfitt bequest. Jim will coordinate with the Conservation Committee prior to requesting that a check is mailed.

Volunteer Opportunity: Jim shared that an Earth Day Fair is being held on May 4 th at the St. Timothy Church in Danville. Organizations are encouraged to participate with a booth that includes information about their organization. The opportunity might attract new members!

Thank you's: Rosemary shared that the brochures created by Suzy have been shared on several hikes with enthusiastic responses. Anyone is welcome to contact Suzy when they need to replace their supply. From Lucy, thank you to Patricia for her generous support (always offered and appreciated) with administrative duties at the Holiday Luncheon. She made nametags, greeted members on arrival, came early and set up tables and created and displayed copies of obituaries of four members who passed recently. Cameron added a thank you for Patricia's annual Lafayette reservoir 'Bird Bell Hike' that included sandwiches, a variety of treats and beverages for hikers when they completed a walk around the reservoir. Her gingerbread men were favorites.

**Announcement:** Patricia highlighted a coming hike outing on February 23rd – a 4 mile walk and a \$ 48 bus tour of SF movie sites – limited to 12 participants.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m. M/S/C

**Next Virtual Meeting:** February 14, 2025 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Cameron Mitchell, Acting Recording Secretary